Chromium-catalyzed *syn*-Stereoselective Ring-opening Arylation of 7-Oxabenzonorbornadienes

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Stereoselective synthesis of multi-functionalized 1,2-dihydronaphthalenols has attracted interest due to their usability as building blocks for synthesizing biologically active compounds.1 Ring-opening and arylation of 7-oxabenonorbornadienes organometallic reagents is a straightforward method to derivatize 1,2-dihydronaphthalenol motif² since the easy accessibility of 7-oxabenzonorbornadienes from furan derivatives and benzyne precursors via [4 + 2]-cycloaddition reaction.³ Among the organometallic reagents used in this reaction, Grignard reagents are the most readily available carbon nucleophiles from the corresponding aryl halides and magnesium powders; however, they were less applicable due to the lower tolerance to the functional groups due to the high reactivity of the Grignard reagents.^{2c} Herein, we report that chromium complexes served as catalysts for syn-stereoselective ring-opening arylation of 7-oxabenzonorbornadienes with Grignard aryl reagents, giving syn-2-aryl-1,2-dihydronaphthalen-1-ols. Chromium complexes exhibited extremely high catalytic activity, reaching to the turn-over number up to 25,000 as the highest turn-over number among the chromium-catalyzed C-C bond formation reactions. In this reaction, we demonstrated a versatility of a rather simple protocol of successive in situ-aryl Grignard formation followed by chromium-catalyzed reactions; aryl Grignard reagents bearing various reactive functional groups were applicable to the chromium-catalyzed ring-opening arylation at -20 °C, giving syn-2-aryl-1,2-dihydronaphthalen-1-ols with the corresponding functionality.4 Substrate scope and the reaction mechanism are disclosed in this presentation.

[References]

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